

FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE

P.O. Box 2604  
Washington, D.C. 20013



FBIS-6408-88

4 FEB 1988

Mr. Harry L. Coburn  
Deputy Assistant Secretary for Passport Services  
Department of State  
Washington, D.C. 20520

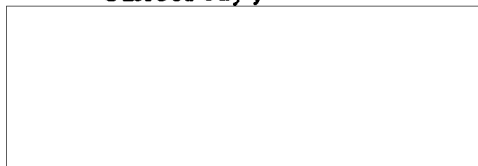
Dear Mr. Coburn:

Your assistance is requested in obtaining diplomatic passports for certain FBIS employees preparing for PCS assignments overseas. Our newly hired editors go through a 12 to 18 month training program before their first permanent assignments. The final "test" in their training is a 3 month TDY to one of our bureaus. Those who successfully complete their training are then immediately processed for a 2 year PCS assignment overseas.

At the present time we are authorized to obtain diplomatic passports only for those employees going PCS overseas. We request your approval to obtain diplomatic passports for our editor-trainees as well when they go on their training TDY's. This will provide these employees with consistent travel documentation and eliminate any need for them to change passports between their TDY and PCS assignments. Approximately 8 to 12 employees would be affected by this procedure each year.

Your favorable consideration of this request would be much appreciated.

Sincerely,



Acting Director

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